AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION	1. CONTRACT ID CO	1. CONTRACT ID CODE		OF PAGES		
2. AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION NO.	3. EFFECTIVE DATE	4. REQUISITION/PURCHA	ASE REQ. NO.	5. PROJEC	T NO (If a	nnlicable)
Two (2)	05/01/2012			0		,pireable)
6. ISSUED BY CODE		7. ADMINISTERED BY (If	other than Item 6)	CODE		
Office of Acquisition & Assistance USAID/Afghanistan American Embassy, The Great Masoud Ro Kabul, Afghanistan	oad					
8. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONTRACTOR (No., street, c	ounty State and ZIP Code)	1	(X) 9A. AMENDMEN	IT OF SOLICE	TATION	
All Offerors			NO.  SOL-306-12-000031 -2  9B. DATED (SEE ITEM 11)  10A. MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT/ORDER NO.  10B. DATED (SEE ITEM 13)			
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11. THIS ITEM	ONLY APPLIES TO	AMENDMENTS OF SC	LICITATIONS			
	copies of the amendment copies of the amendment copies of the amendment copies of the solicitation and ame RIOR TO THE HOUR AND DAIL, such change may be made ur and date specified.	tt; (b) By acknowledging receip ndment numbers. FAILURE C TE SPECIFIED MAY RESUL by telegram or letter, provided DDIFICATION OF CON DER NO. AS DESCRIE	pt of this amendment of PYOUR ACKNOWLE T IN REJECTION OF Videach telegram or lette	n each copy of DGMENT TO YOUR OFFER or makes refer	BE RECEIN R. If by virtue rence to the	/ED AT THE e of this solicitation
B. THE ABOVE NUMBERED CONTRACT/C date, etc.) SET FORTH IN ITEM 14, PUR	SUANT TO THE AUTHORIT	Y OF FAR 43.103(b).	E CHANGES (such as	s changes in p	aying office	appropriation
C. THIS SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT IS		T TO AUTHORITY OF:				
D. OTHER (Specify type of modification and	т аштопту)					
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Except as provided herein, all terms and conditions of the do	porate additional Qu	estions and Answers	to potential offe	erors.	orce and effe	ect.
15B. CONTRACTOR/OFFEROR	15C. DATE SIGNED	16B. UNITED STATES OF A	AMERICA		16C. D	OATE SIGNED
(Signature of person authorized to sign)		19	e of Contracting Officer	)	- 30	APR/2

## Afghan Agricultural Research and Extension Development (AGRED)

Question: Contractor Performance Report-Short Form in RFP doesn't match what is required under

Past Performance in text of RFP on page 133?

**Answer:** Please submit the information required on page 133.

Question: Is Section K Representations, Certifications, and Other Statements of Offers available in

Word?

**Answer:** Section K in MS Word is attached.

Question: On page 133 of RFP, under (c) Past Performance, 1. It states for each of the 5 most recent

and relevant contracts, indicated which are listed in NIH or PPIRS? What is NIH and

PPIRS?

Answer: National Institute of Health (NIH) and Past Performance Information Retrieval System

(PPIRS) are USG databases for contractors' performance evaluations.

Question: Please clarify working with "small business" concerns.

Answer: Please refer to Federal Acquisition Regulations, especially Part 19.

**Question:** What is the role of the contractors' oversight in infrastructure in RFP on page 17 under

"infrastructure" number 4, does the contractor select the refurbishment contractors for the

research station in accordance with MAIL?

Answer: The role of the contractor will be to provide technical support to MAIL – it may include

design, technical/engineering reviews, facilitation of the procurement process. However, the procurement will be conducted by MAIL in accordance with GIRoA procurement

regulations and guidelines.

Question: What are the \*\* for on page 14 of RFP under "expected results and indicators"?

**Answer:** Please ignore the asterisks.

Question: It is stated on Page 132: Demonstrated capacity and willingness to partner with MAIL,

DAIL and coordinate with other donors, USAID programs, personnel, the military and GIRoA: In evaluating this Subfactor, the assessment will concentrate on how the offeror plans to partner with MRRD and coordinate with other actors at the Regional, Provincial and District levels, with an emphasis on the concepts of Afghanization, Afghan First and

Regionalization in proposals.

Working with MRRD is OK, but did you mean to have this read MRRD or should it have

been MAIL?

**Answer:** This should read MAIL.

## Afghan Agricultural Research and Extension Development (AGRED)

Question:

Can we include in the consultant budget limited funds for materials, tools or equipment used for training that would be sourced in the US? We would assume that almost all such procurements would be part of the "on-budget, USAID fund". Is our assumption correct that almost all procurements of goods would be part of the on-budget? The reason for the question is that it is quite cumbersome for the team to use the on-budget to purchase items from the US that are easily sourced by the US consultant.

Answer:

The assumption is that the majority of procurements should be completed by MAIL utilizing on budget funds. However, it is understood that for the Contractor to conduct training, mentoring, and demonstration activities in Kabul and in the field limited amounts of inputs will have to be purchased to support these activities.

**Question:** 

What is the mechanism to fund the on-budget, USAID fund? Will this be through Ministry of Finance with a set procedure and templates to follow? Is this a reimbursable process? If so, has MAIL agreed to fund the period between purchase and reimbursement? Or is there some sort of advance that can be drawn upon and replenished when low? ADB and WB model. Or is this all for the Consultant and their counterparts to solve?

Answer:

The mechanism for funding on-budget support will be an implementation letter that will be negotiated between USAID and the Government of Afghanistan. On agreement, tranches of funding to support agreed activities will be released from the U.S. Government through the Ministry of Finance into a special account for the AGRED program. Funding will be based on a set of agreed activities and benchmarks for the achievement of those activities between USAID and MAIL. This will be formalized through implementation letters. The role of the contractor in this process will be to technically assist MAIL in developing an annual workplan activities that USAID can review and approve in support of the implementation letter process, monitoring of activities alongside the USAID Contracting Officer Representative (COR) MAIL's capacity to implement the activities and achieve the benchmarks agreed with USAID, and alongside the USAID COR advise USAID on the progress against those benchmarks. Another role of the contractor will be to monitor MAIL's procurement and financial processes in support of the agreed on-budget programming in coordination with USAID. The contractor is not responsible for setting up these financial or procurement systems – existing MAIL systems will be used. The contractor will not have a role in setting up the special account or the financial transaction between the USG and the Government of Afghanistan. This is the responsibility of the two governments. Furthermore, the model used here will not be a grants management or program management unit as has been utilized by other donors. The objective here is to utilize existing MAIL systems and support existing MAIL staff to the highest degree possible. The role of the AGRED contractor is to provide technical assistance and training to facilitate the technical implementation of AGRED on budget programming.